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NO. 4690 P. 18/19

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Appln. No. 09/867,180
Amendment dated June 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of March 22, 2006

that would specify such an affiliation site added will be sent to a user. After that, a user identifier that has been input by a user is verified against the user registration information, and if the two match, the user is allowed to access the service provider site.

In view of all of the foregoing, independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are patentable over the cited reference under 35 USC 102 as well as 35 USC 103.

Claim 4 is dependent on claim 1, claim 7 is dependent on claim 6 and claims 12-14 are dependent on claim 11. Dependent

claims 4, 7 and 12-14 are patentable over the cited references in

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